Docket No. 405507/0031

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants: Yuichi Nishihara

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No.: National Stage of

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

PCT/JP2004/001155

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

EXPENDABLE CONTAINER WITH FUNCTION OF MEASURING

RESIDUAL QUANTITY OF EXPENDABLE

Date: December 20, 2004

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A & B.

Copies of the cited references are enclosed. English abstracts and machine English translations of the cited Japanese Laid-Open Patent Applications have been provided.

JP 10-305590 was cited in the international search report prepared during international processing of this application. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the International Search Report is submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of the relevance of this reference.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2), together with the subject national stage application.

Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may now or hereafter be due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-4709, as necessary.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A & B be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Schaeffer Registration No. 32,716

Attorney for Applicants

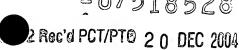
STROOCK & STROOCK & LAVAN

LLP

180 Maiden Lane

New York, New York 10038-4982

(212) 806-5400



PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known				
		Application Number	PCT/JP2004/001155			
. [	NFORMATION DISCLOSURE	Filing Date	Int'l Filing Date: 04/February/2004			
	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Yuichi Nishihara			
		Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned			
	(Use as many sheets as necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned			
Sheet	1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	405507/0031			

Examiner	Cite	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where		
Initials*	No. <sup>1</sup>	Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (If known)</sup>	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-					
		US-	<del></del>				
		US-		<del></del>			
		US-					
		US-			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
<del></del>		US-					
		US-					
***************************************		US-					
······································		US-			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
***************************************		US-					

		FOREIGN F	PATENT DOCL	JMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>6</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		JP-10-305590-A	11-17-1998	Matsushita Elec. Ind. Co.		X
	<b>†</b> ************************************	JP-2001-147146-A	05-29-2001	Seiko Epson Corp.	w/ Engl. Abst. & Trans.	X
		JP-2002-241450-A	08-28-2002	Seiko Epson Corp.	w/ Engl. Abst. & Trans.	X
		JP-06-008427-A	01-18-1994	Seiko Epson Corp.	w/ Engl. Abst. & Trans.	X
	[					

Examiner	Date		
Signature	Consid	iered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/08b (08-03)
Approved for use through 06/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

	Substitute for	form 1449B/PTC					Complete if Known
						Application Number	PCT/JP2004/001155
	INFO	RMATIO	N DIS	SCLO	SURE	Filing Date	Int'l Filing Date: 04/February/2004
	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				ICANT	First Named Inventor	Yuichi Nishihara
						Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
		(Use as many s	heets as i	necessar	y)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
abla	Sheet		2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	405507/0031

		7000710001	_
		NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²
		International Search Report dated May 25, 2004, in PCT/JP2004/001155	
***************************************	•		
•••••	•••••		
			-
•••••			
•••••••••••			
••••••	•••••••		
••••••			
•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	••••••		
			<u>L</u>
Examiner		Date	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Considered

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Signature